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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyTOPIC Military Information From Frankfurt/Oder

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REFERENCES

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REMARKS

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1. Between 21 and 31 July 1950 the Artillerie Kaserne on August Bebel-Strasse, Frankfurt/Oder (O 53/V 62), was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Many of the troops that were stationed there were apparently still out on field exercises. On 27 July 1950 artillery drill was held in the barracks yard with six 76.2-mm guns. About 100 troops held infantry drill.

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2. The Duelow Kaserne on Fuerstenwalder Poststrasse housed a rear detail of about 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets between 21 and 30 July 1950.

3. About 120 recruits moved in the Eichhorn Kaserne on Muellroser Landstrasse on 8 July 1950. Some windows of the barracks buildings were open but no activity was seen. Most of the annex buildings were used by the Kech.

4. Between 21 and 31 July 1950 the southwestern section of the Eichhorn Kaserne was occupied by about 600 troops, mostly 18 to 20-year-old recruits, wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 200 troops were drilling there on 28 July 1950. On other days routine training in small groups was observed.

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5. The Hindenburg Kaserne on August Bebelstrasse housed a small rear detail between 21 and 31 July 1950. A building next to the billeting area in the direction of the bread factory housed the guard personnel on duty in the ration supply depot. Relieving guards, 35 to 40 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, were repeatedly observed leaving their billets. (2)

6. From 21 to 31 July 1950 the Hoffauer Kaserne on Birnbaummuehlstrasse was occupied only by a guard detail of about 15 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Some of the annex buildings were used by the Kech as storerooms for furniture. (2)

7. The Morn Kaserne on Freidrich Ibertstrasse housed a rear detail of not more than 40 soldiers.

8. The Ziethen Kaserne on Kopernikusstrasse, between 21 and 31 July 1950, was occupied

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by about 100 troops, mostly recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Some soldiers wore artillery and tank insignia. Two trucks [redacted] left the barracks installation on 31 July 1950, heading toward Muellroser Landstrasse. They were occupied by soldiers.

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9. The kommandatura in the Yellow Press building on Puschkinstrasse had a personnel of about 100 soldiers who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and were billeted in the former labor office building. They worked in offices in an apartment building across the street. [redacted]

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10. The installation on Birnbaummuehlenstrasse was lightly occupied on 26 July 1950. It apparently housed a signal unit which, according to local residents, belonged to the artillery regiment stationed in Frankfurt/Oder. (3) The installation also included storerooms with furniture for the Kech. [redacted]

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11. On 26 July 1950 the barracks on Fuerstenwalder Poststrasse were occupied by a guard detail of artillerymen. [redacted]

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12. The billeting area on August Bebelstrasse seemed to be occupied to capacity by an artillery unit on 26 July 1950. [redacted]

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13. The installation on Nuhnerstrasse was only lightly occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Two soldiers wore tank insignia. There was no motor traffic. (2)

14. The barracks installation on Kopernikusstrasse housed a guard detail wearing red-bordered black epaulets on 27 July 1950. Repair work was being done at the barracks. (2)

15. A board fence divided the billeting area on Highway No 87 into two sections of unequal size. On 27 July 1950 the larger section was occupied by troops wearing red epaulets. They left for field training in small groups. The smaller section of the area housed troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets and also had storerooms for furniture of the Kech. The combined troops in both sections were estimated at 300 to 400. [redacted]

16. Most of the units from Frankfurt/Oder were in the maneuver area at Lieberose in late July 1950. [redacted] An artillery regiment was believed to be stationed in Frankfurt/Oder. (4)

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17. [redacted]

18. On 3 August 1950 German laborers at the Ziethen Kaserne said that a mixed unit equipped with artillery pieces, AT guns and mortars had been stationed in the installation prior to about 1 July 1950, when it went to the training grounds near Muellrose. [redacted]

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19. There was a villa next to the Artillerie Kaserne from which field wires led to the adjacent billeting area and to the German postal lines. The rooms of the villa were furnished with office equipment and had map-lined walls. A sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets stood in front of the house. There was continuous traffic between the house and the Artillerie Kaserne. Officers who were

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seen wore gold-bordered red epaulets, some with artillery and tank insignia. A colonel was observed to be the ranking officer.

20. Colonel Balant (fnu) was the commanding officer of the units stationed in the Artillerie Kaserne, according to a policeman who also mentioned Captain Chukov (fnu) as the commanding officer of a unit subordinate to the colonel.
21. The civilian houses opposite the Artillerie Kaserne on August Debel-Strasse were used as transient billets for high-ranking Soviet officers. They were being reconditioned on 3 August 1950. Eight field officers, including a general staff major, wearing red epaulets with golden braids, were billeted on the upper floors according to a German laborer. Telephone lines had recently been constructed between the transient officers' billets and the Artillerie Kaserne.
22. On 3 and 10 August 1950 it was learned that courses for Soviet officers to complete their high school education were conducted in the former Lehrerbildungsanstalt (teachers' college), Frankfurt/Oder. The courses were attended by officers from posts over the entire Soviet "zone of Germany". The school was directed by Altynov (fnu), a civilian, who was in the U.S.S.R. as the courses had been discontinued until the end of September 1950 because the Soviet units were on maneuvers. Only an English language course attended by 42 officers was being given. (S)

Comments.

- (1) Since the installation was occupied by 1,500 troops during the winter of 1949/1950 it can be assumed that about a third of the troops, component units of the unidentified AAA Div of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, were still at the Mustraw AAA range at the end of July 1950. the installation was occupied to capacity.
- (2) The information does not indicate any change in the occupation since reports of early July 1950. It can be assumed that the component units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div from Frankfurt/Oder were still in the Lieberose training area.
- (3) No previous information on the Hofbauer Kaserne on Birnbaummuehlenweg has indicated that a signal unit was stationed there.
- (4) The artillery regiment was probably confused with the component units of the unidentified AAA Div stationed in the Artillerie Kaserne.
- (5)
- (6)
- (7) The villa bordering on the barracks installation is believed to house the headquarters of the unidentified AAA Div. Colonel Balant (fnu) may be commanding officer of the AAA Div.
- (8) This is the first information on the Soviets using the former Lehrerbildungsanstalt, the location of which is not known.

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